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6 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
7 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**
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9 Johnny Wheatcroft, et al.,

10 Plaintiffs,

11 v.

12 City of Glendale, et al.,

13 Defendants.
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No. CV-18-02347-PHX-MTL

ORDER

15 Pending before the Court is a motion to seal Defendants' unopposed motion to
16 authorize release of Plaintiffs' probation files. (Doc. 80.) The only justification provided
17 for sealing is that the motion "contains confidential identifying information for Plaintiffs
18 Johnny Wheatcroft and Anya Chapman." (*Id.* at 1.)

19 Courts have long recognized a "general right to inspect and copy public records and
20 documents, including judicial records and documents." *Nixon v. Warner Commc'ns, Inc.*,
21 435 U.S. 589, 597 & n. 7 (1978). A party seeking to file a motion under seal must
22 "articulate[] compelling reasons supported by specific factual findings" to overcome the
23 "strong presumption in favor of access." *Kamakana v. City & Cty. of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d
24 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006) (citations omitted); *see also* LRCiv 5.6 (requiring "a clear
25 statement of the facts and legal authority justifying the filing of the document under seal").

26 The Court agrees that Plaintiffs' "confidential identifying information" need not be
27 made part of the public record. However, that result can be accomplished by redacting
28 those specific portions of the motion and accompanying exhibits, rather than sealing the

1 entire motion. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 5.2(a) (permitting redaction when the filing contains an
2 “individual's social-security number, taxpayer-identification number, or birth date, the
3 name of an individual known to be a minor, or a financial-account number”). Defendants
4 provide no other reason to seal the motion. Accordingly,

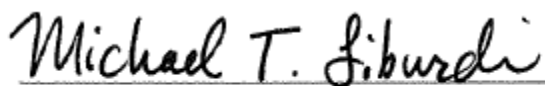
5 **IT IS ORDERED** that the motion to seal (Doc. 80) is **denied**.

6 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the lodged Unopposed Motion for Order to
7 Authorize Release of Johnny Wheatcroft's and Anya Chapman's Probation Files to
8 Defendants City of Glendale, Matt Schneider, Mark Lindsey, and Michael Fernandez (Doc.
9 81) is stricken from the record.

10 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants shall file the Unopposed Motion
11 for Order to Authorize Release of Johnny Wheatcroft's and Anya Chapman's Probation
12 Files to Defendants City of Glendale, Matt Schneider, Mark Lindsey, and Michael
13 Fernandez by **January 3, 2019**. Defendants may redact personal identifying information,
14 as permitted by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5.2(a), but shall not file the entire motion
15 under seal.

16 **IT IS FINALLY ORDERED** that this Order shall not be sealed.

17 Dated this 23rd day of December, 2019.

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20 Michael T. Liburdi
21 United States District Judge
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